(1) how many Panchayat Courts did the Chief Judge of the Chief Court inspect in the year 1110 M. E.;

(2) has he made any written remarks about any of the Panchayat Courts after inspection; and if so, will Government be pleased to place them on the table;

(3) when was the Varantharapilli Panchayat established;

(4) has the said Panchayat been given civil jurisdiction;

(5) what is the distance from the eastern boundary of Varantharapilli village to the Munsiff's Court of Irinjalakkuda?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—(1) Two.

(2) Yes. Copy of the remarks is appended. (*Appendix V*).

(3) In 1096.

(4) No.

(5) About 20 miles.

Government dredger for the Backwaters.

206. Mr. George Parakkal.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) does the Government possess a small dredger suitable for working in the backwaters;

(b) when was it purchased; is it in working condition;

(c) is there a staff appointed for the dredger; if so, what are their pay and designation, and what work are they doing now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) About 20 years ago. It is in working condition.

(c) Yes.

Driver	Rs. 35—50
Assistant driver	„ 30
Fireman	„ 15—20
Watchman	„ 12

The fireman and the watchman are made to do work in the barges when the dredger is idle. The driver will be working in the Mechanical Office and workshop in addition to his duties as the officer responsible for the maintenance of the dredger. The assistant driver will be posted to work in the Mechanical Office when the dredger is idle.

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